



NRD

Upper Loup Scoop

April 2011

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LB 383 to Eliminate State-Aid to Municipalities, counties and Nebraska NRDs

In order to help balance Nebraska's upcoming biennial budget, difficult and controversial choices must be made this Legislative Session. LB 383, introduced by Senator Cornett, will eliminate state-aid to Municipalities, Counties and Nebraska NRDs. Governor Heinemann approved LB 383 on March 10th. LB 383 will affect the Upper Loup NRD's (ULNRD) 2011-2012 budget by eliminating just over \$7000 in state-aid.

Budget cuts have not been a stranger to the ULNRD. Fiscal Year 2010 experienced over a \$20,000 reduction in cost share dollars. The ULNRD will strive to maintain current services and cost share programs by continuing to find other funding mechanisms such as grant dollars. Program dollars have been exhausted for 2010-2011, new funds will be available July of 2011. For a list of our cost-share programs please visit our website at

www.upperloupnrd.org.

Board of Directors

Sub district 1

Chris Vinton
Eric Storer

Sub district 2

Wynn Wiems
Judy Ridenour

Sub district 3

Gary Schaeffer
Chris Higgins

Sub district 4

Byron Cox
Gordon Simonson

Sub district 5

Darwin Frey
Tom Johnson

At large

Patrick Wright

Chemigation Training

The Nebraska Chemigation Act requires irrigators obtain a permit from their local NRD if they intend to apply chemical through an irrigation system after January 1, 1987. The NRDs are responsible for inspecting and permitting the specific safety equipment that must be installed on the irrigation system. To pass inspection the mainline check valve must not have any sort of leak when there is water in the system. This prevents chemical solution from seeping back down the wee and into the groundwater.

An application must be filed for each well site which will apply chemicals through the system. The applicator must be a certified chemigator a permit can be issued.

To obtain a Chemigation permit:

- ◆ Attend UN Extension Service training class and pass a written exam to receive Chemigation Certification (certification is valid for four years). For more information contact Bethany Johnston at the Central Sandhills Extension office or call 308-645-2267.
- ◆ Apply at the Upper Loup Natural Resources District or fill out form on-line form www.upperloupnrd.org under Applications and Forms.
- ◆ Initial application cost for a one year permit is \$30.00. Renewal cost is \$10.00 per year.
- ◆ Deadline for renewal application is June 1.
- ◆ Additional training information can be found at <http://www.deq.state.ne.us/>. At Licenses & Certifications/Chemigation/Training Dates.

Local training dates are as listed:

DATES:

April 21
May 5

LOCATION:

North Platte—West Central REC
North Platte—West Central REC

TIME:

1:30 CT
1:30 CT





Recycling grant

The Upper Loup NRD (ULNRD) has been preliminarily approved the 2nd year of a 3 year Environmental Trust recycling grant. To Promote conservation, water quality and waste reduction within the District, the ULNRD had requested funds to help expand current recycling efforts across the District. In 2011, two trailers will be purchased and placed in the communities of Dunning and Mullen. Just recently the ULNRD acquired an additional recycling trailer thanks to the Thedford FCCLA group. This trailer was placed in Seneca. Personal collection bins are also available at the ULNRD office. Limit is one per household. To date 29,800 lbs of recyclable material and 21,600 lbs of cardboard have been collected and taken to the end market, which is 12% of the 3 year goal of 203 tons.



Personal Container

Trailer Locations:

Halsey—Just south of the community building

Hyannis—At the entrance of the Hyannis Recycling Center (behind orange gates)

Thedford—39252 Hwy 2 (Upper Loup NRD parking lot)

Stapleton—In the old state yard one block south of HWY 92 on the west edge of town

Seneca—By the elementary school next to dumpsters

We are currently collecting:

- ◆ #1 and #2 plastics **PLEASE REMOVE LIDS
- ◆ Aluminum and Tin **DO NOT NEED TO RINSE OR REMOVE LABELS
- ◆ Paper/Newspaper/Magazines **NO HEAVY CONSTRUCTION PAPER OR HEAVILY DYED

If you have any questions regarding the trailers or recyclables please feel free to contact our office at 308-645-2250, Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.. CT. We have recycling information and location of recycling trailers listed on our website at www.upperloupnrd.org under **SERVICES**.



Groundwater Monitoring Well Network

On January, 14th, Chris Hobza, geologist with the USGS, presented a summary of the framework study to several constituents of the ULNRD. The USGS is currently working on the 3 year final report which is expected to be released sometime this fall.



Tree Hand-Plants Still Available

The ULNRD has bare-root trees available. The cost is \$0.84 (includes tax) per tree with a 25 tree order minimum. Contact Kyle for all of your tree needs at 308-645-2250. For complete list of trees and shrubs and hand-planting guide please visit our website at: www.upperloupnrd.org Tree species available:

Broadleaf Species

Amur Maple	Harbin Pear
Aspen, big Tooth	Hawthorn, Washington
Black Cherry	Honey Locust
Black Walnut	Kentucky Coffeetree
Bur Oak	Manchurian Apricot
Catalpa	Mountain Ash Oak Leaf
Cottonwood, Hybrid	Pecan
Cottonwood	Red Maple
Crabapple	Red Oak
Gamble Oak	Siberian Elm
Peach Leaf Willow	Swamp White Oak
Green Ash	Shumard Oak
Hackberry	Silver Maple
Sycamore	White Poplar

Conifer Species

Austrian Pine
Black Hills Spruce
Colorado Blue Spruce
Eastern Red Cedar
Jack Pine
Limber Pine
Norway Spruce
Pinyon Pine
Ponderosa Pine
Red Pine
Rocky Mountain Juniper



Boater Safety

The Upper Loup NRD in Thedford will host a boating safety test-out session Thursday May 26, 2011. Registration due date is May 16th. Scott Eveland, Boating Safety Officer for the Nebraska Game and Parks commission, will be the instructor for the class.

The Nebraska Boater Safety course is required of all power operators under the age of 18 (including operators of personal watercraft—Jet ski, SeaDoo, Waverunner, etc.) The minimum age to operate a boat is 14. The class covers everything from equipment requirements to safe boat operation, accident prevention and is a great course for both new and experienced boaters. Boat owners who complete the class may qualify for insurance discounts.

Parents are encouraged to attend with their children and boaters of all ages are welcome. The test-out session will run from 10:00 am CT until 12:00 pm CT on Thursday May 26th. The class will be held at the Upper Loup NRD office in Thedford. To register for the class, contact the ULNRD office at 308-645-2250 or for additional information, contact Boating Safety Officer Eveland at 308-289-0017. For information on Nebraska boating laws and other scheduled classes, please visit:

www.OutdoorNebraska.org/boating

NRD to Give Presentations for Earth Day at Elementary Schools

The Upper Loup NRD will again be visiting the elementary schools in the District to celebrate Earth Day. The ULNRD will donate reusable shopping bags to all 1st-6th grades.

The ULNRD provides classroom presentations to students K-12, any group or organization on a variety of topics including pollution, water, trees, wildlife, land treatment, geocaching or other environmental and conservation issues. If you would like the ULNRD to present to your group, please contact the office at 308-645-2250.



ACE Camp 2001

Sign up today for the second annual Adventure Camp about the Environment (ACE). ACE is for middle school students who have completed sixth, seventh and eighth grades in the 2010-2011 school year and who are interested in having fun and learning about Nebraska Natural Resources. ACE is hosted at the State 4-H Youth Camp near Halsey, June

5th-8th. ACE is sponsored and organized by Nebraska Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) and the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD).

The four day adventure camp focuses on water quality, soils, range, forestry, and wildlife while educating campers through hands-on activities on the importance of protecting our natural resources. During ACE, campers have the opportunity to roll up their sleeves and dig into nature and form a new understanding of the environment through interactive participation.

In addition, campers have the chance to experience nature through activities such as canoeing, archery, zip line, water rockets, the water slide and other adventures. Campers will also learn about possible careers in the area of natural resources from the professionals who work there every day. This is a great opportunity to get our youth involved in learning about natural resources through hands-on activities with experts that are excited about natural resources.

Registration cost is \$180 per camper. The ULNRD provides one full scholarship per district. For more information and scholarship availability please contact the ULNRD office at 308-645-2250. Space is limited and the registration deadline is May 6th.

Dripal Pursuit.

Test your water knowledge:

1. True or false, contaminated water always tastes or smells bad?
2. How long is the Panama Canal?
3. Who invented the center pivot?
4. Which hold more water, warm air or cool air?
5. Applying agricultural chemicals with a center pivot irrigation system is called what?
6. What were the first water pipes in the U.S. made from?
7. What is the average annual precipitation For Nebraska on a state-wide basis?
8. What is one of the world's largest aquifers?

Answers found on page 4

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
US Postage Paid
Thedford, NE 69166
Permit. No. 11 STD

Upper Loup NRD
39252 Hwy 2
Thedford, NE 69166
Phone: 308-645-2250
Fax: 308-645-2308

We are on the web!
www.upperloupnrd.org

Calendar of Events

April

- 2-3 Bow Hunter Safety Class
- 14 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Arbor Day

May

- 12 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford
- 26 Boater Safety Class
- 30 Holiday—Office Closed

June

- 9 ULNRD Board Meeting—
Thedford

The ULNRD has gopher bait on hand for purchase by those individuals that have a current pesticide applicators license. The District also has a gopher machine available for rent. If interested please contact the office for information at 308-645-2250.

Dripial Pursuit Answers:

1. False
2. 44
3. Frank Zybach
4. Warm
5. Chemigation
6. Logs
7. 22 Inches
8. Ogallala or High Plains

Upper Loup Staff

Anna BaumGeneral Manager
Jack Brummet...Resources Technician
Kyle Yrkoski....Resources Technician
Leslie Reiser.....Administrative Secretary
Denise Vinton...Information & Education
Cleo Jacobs... Thedford Field Office Sec.

TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER

ULNRD Directors Take Oath of Office

During the January and February board meetings 5 ULNRD directors took the Oath of Office:

Wynn Wiems, Mullen	Sub-district 2
Chris Higgins, Thedford	Sub-district 3
Byron Cox, Purdum	Sub-district 4

Attention Irrigators

WATER USE REPORTS NEEDED

Recently the ULNRD sent out water use reports, which are slowly being returned. We are urging irrigators to complete and return their forms at their earliest convenience. Irrigators may also call in their water use.

Water use reporting is essential to the management of our vital resource. Annual reporting of water use is important to protect stakeholder interests, adopting actions in times of water emergencies, and providing data for effective farm management. To protect the farmer's in any litigation related to the state's right to water use in a given basin, existing uses must be able to be quantified. Knowing water use also allows a wider range of options for dealing with any future drought-related water emergencies.

If you have questions on completing the form or if you would like to call in your water use, please contact our office at 308-645-2250. **Thank you** to those producers that have already responded!